

set of magistrates. For 13 years he served as a member of the Virginia General Assembly, representing Giles County. He was largely instrumental in forming the county of Mercer, in 1837, and in 1838 he laid out, on lands belonging to him, the town of Princeton, the county seat of Mercer, donating to the public the beautiful public square and town spring, still in use.

From that time Captain Smith made the new town his home, and was a prominent and leading figure in the town's life; there was never a thought of disputing his decisions as a magistrate. Some of his wise sayings may still be heard throughout the county, many of them being aphorisms full of wisdom. When some of the older residents remark that "the law is nothing but common sense," or "an ounce of fear is worth a pound of love, at any time," the stranger may feel sure he is listening to one of the shrewd remarks of this venerated father of the town. After a long, happy and useful life of 84 years, he passed away. In memory of his public services the County Court caused his portrait to be placed in the Court House, an honor never conferred on any other citizen of the county. This portrait was unfortunately destroyed by fire, when the town was burned in 1862, and we have been

necessitated to use an inferior one. Although the world is often forgetful of its heroes, the esteem and respectful remembrance in which this old pioneer is still held by his fellow citizens does much to prove that sterling traits of character and true worth sometimes erect monuments more valuable than those made of granite and marble.



COL. A. S. HUTSON.

COL. A. S. HUTSON, Assistant Adjutant General of the State of West Virginia, and a popular and much esteemed citizen of Charleston, Kanawha County, was born October 10, 1866, near Cumberland, Maryland, where his father is engaged in agricultural pur-

suits. He is a son of Henry and Frances (Downey) Hutson, the former of whom was born in Maryland, and the latter in West Virginia.

Colonel Hutson was primarily educated in the local schools of his native State and received higher instruction in the Allegany Academy at Cumberland, Maryland, spending some three years there in study. During the two years following he assisted in the operation of the family estate and then, in 1882, went to Piedmont, Mineral County, West Virginia, where he was employed with the Black, Sheridan & Wilson Coal Company. In 1898, he left there and was made captain of Company H, 2nd Regiment, West Virginia Infantry, U. S. Volunteers, for service in the Spanish-American War. His command was stationed at Greenville, South Carolina, where it remained about one year.

Upon his return to West Virginia, Colonel Hutson located at Charleston, in April, 1899. In December, 1891, he enlisted as a private in the West Virginia National Guards and received promotions until he had the rank of colonel, and was then appointed Assistant Adjutant General of the State, a position he fills with credit.

In 1891 Colonel Hutson was united in marriage with Elizabeth Walker,

who is a native of Maryland; her mother is a lineal descendant of the historic Allen family of England.



DAVID M. SHIRKEY.

DAVID M. SHIRKEY, clerk of the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, West Virginia, and a prominent citizen of Charleston, was born January 14, 1860, and is a son of John G. and Martha (Matheney) Shirkey, both of whom are natives of Kanawha County. John G. Shirkey followed teaching practically all his life, and became a very well known and much valued educator. His death occurred at Graham Mines, September 25, 1887. His widow still survives and is a resident of Charleston.

David M. Shirkey was educated in

the Kanawha County select schools, and received many advantages on account of having an educator for his father. While still in his minority, he began teaching also, and continued in the profession for a period of 19 years. In the meantime, like every intelligent and public spirited citizen, he became deeply interested in political questions. In the spring of 1894 he began the reading of the law, in the office of L. E. and H. C. McWhorter, but for the following two years he devoted only his summers to its study, teaching through the winter seasons. Later he spent two summers with Judge Hall and he was admitted to the bar and began practicing in Charleston. In 1898 he was appointed special deputy collector of the internal revenue, and later was elected to his present position of clerk of the Circuit Court, taking his seat January 1, 1903.

Mr. Shirkey belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and takes an active interest in the workings of his lodge.

CAPT. RAYNER BROOKFIELD, a well known citizen of Smithfield, Wetzel County, West Virginia, and a survivor of the Civil War, was born July 20, 1844, at Newbern, North Carolina, and is a son of John

A. and Jane (Butler) Brookfield, the former of whom was a native of New Jersey and the latter of North Carolina.

John A. Brookfield, the father of our subject, was the commander of a merchant vessel engaged in a coastwise trade between New York and the West Indies. His life was one of adventure. He served in the War of 1812 on an American privateer and was captured by the British and confined on a prison ship until the close of hostilities. He is supposed to have been lost in the wreck of his vessel, the "Planet," off Cape Hatteras, at about the age of 62 years. His wife died in 1864, during an epidemic of yellow fever, aged 60 years. The five children of the family were: Rachel, a resident of Newbern, North Carolina; Jacob, who was killed in 1864, at the age of 26, at the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, being captain of Company D, 5th North Carolina Regiment; Harriet, who married Capt. H. O. Brown, a civil engineer at Newbern, North Carolina; Rayner, of this sketch; and John, who resides in Texas.

Captain Brookfield was reared in North Carolina and was educated in private schools and in Newbern Academy. When the Civil War broke out, he was clerking in a local store. His

brother was made captain of the company and our subject, then but 16 years of age, determined to enter it for army service, but he was not permitted to regularly enlist until March, 1862. He was made sergeant-major on the same day and in June of the same year was made 2nd lieutenant and a few months later was commissioned captain of Company C, 5th North Carolina Regiment. Although no doubt the youngest officer of that rank in the Confederate Army, his ability and gallantry made the "Boy Captain" known through every regiment. He participated in many of the fiercest battles of the war from Bull Run to Appomattox, and suffered severely. Until he was wounded first at Seven Pines, he served under General Johnston; afterwards he served under General Lee to the close of the war. At Cold Harbor he received a minie ball in the shoulder, which he carried seven years before the surgeons were able to extract it, but his most serious wound was on the terrible day at Spottsylvania, May 11, 1864, his brother being killed on the following day, when a minie ball so shattered his left knee that it was found necessary to amputate the leg the same day. He had been taken prisoner, was sent to Washington and there it was found that the hasty field operation had

to be gone over again, when three inches more were removed. The brave boy captain was then sent to a Philadelphia hospital and later was confined for six months in the Seminary Hospital at Georgetown.

At the close of the war, Captain Brookfield returned to North Carolina and was appointed register of deeds of Craven County, and served in that capacity until April, 1868. After a few months in Washington, D. C., engaged in a mercantile line, he went to Fauquier County, Virginia, and engaged in farming from 1870 to 1884, in the latter year moving to Salisbury, North Carolina, and in 1895 removing to Smithfield. He became bookkeeper for Mr. Smith and had charge of the post office. In 1898 he became bookkeeper in the Bank of Smithfield and has been engaged in this line ever since. Captain Brookfield has many friends and a host of old comrades who delight to tell of his youthful bravery.

While in the hospital Captain Brookfield became acquainted with A. J. Smith, an officer of the Confederate Army, and accompanied the latter to his pleasant and hospitable home in Fauquier County, Virginia, meeting there the estimable sister of his host, Mary B. Smith, who, on April 20, 1870, became his wife. The five chil-

dren born to Captain and Mrs. Brookfield are: Emma, the widow of Prof. John N. Carroll, of Caldwell, Texas; Mary Baker, at home; John William, a resident of Pine Grove, West Virginia; Inez Parker, a teacher in the Smithfield schools; and Paul Virginia. In politics Captain Brookfield has always been identified with the Democratic party. The family belong to the Presbyterian Church.



R. A. HAYNES, M. D.

R. A. HAYNES, M. D., vice president of the West Virginia Medical Association and a prominent physician and surgeon of Clarksburg, Harrison

County, West Virginia, was born July 22, 1867, in Greenbrier County, this State, and is a son of Rev. James and Susan E. (Shanklin) Haynes. Dr. Haynes comes of pioneer stock on both paternal and maternal sides.

The Haynes family is of Germanic origin, although the original spelling of the family name was without the final "s." It is presumed that the family settled in the American colonies some years prior to the Revolutionary War. In that struggle for American independence, Isaac Hayne, the great-great-grandfather of our subject, was a soldier of the rank and file, as were also his seven sons. It is tradition in the family that Isaac Hayne distinguished himself by some act of bravery during the Revolution and was rewarded with a commission, in which his name was written Haynes instead of Hayne. His family, since then, have always held to the name of Haynes. Not a great deal is known of his seven sons, except William, who was the next in direct line of descent to the subject of this sketch. The facts in regard to Charles, Benjamin, Joseph and Moses Haynes, sons of Isaac Haynes, are quite meager. All that is known of Charles is that he was married November 24, 1781, to Mary Dixon, of Greenbrier. Benjamin belonged to Gen-

eral Morgan's legion of riflemen, and is traditionally remembered as a rollicking, hardy, stout young man. After the Revolution, he lived and died on Jackson River, about nine miles below Covington, Virginia. Joseph also lived and died on Jackson River. On April 5, 1782, he was married to Barbara Riffe, of Greenbrier. The late Major Haynes who lived near Oakland, in Alleghany County, was a son, and Col. Charles Haynes of the "Stonewall Brigade," who died some 20 or 25 years ago, was a grandson. Moses settled in Tennessee at an early date, but no special knowledge of his branch of the family can be gleaned.

William Haynes, the great-grandfather of our subject, was born December 18, 1763, and settled in Monroe (then Greenbrier) County, on a farm between "Gap Mills" and the Sweet Springs. About the year 1795, Mr. Haynes removed to another farm (now Robert McNutt's) at the foot of Little Mountain, near "Gap Mills." At this point he farmed until his death, which occurred May 1, 1819. Here, too, his wife, who was Catherine Shanklin, of Botetourt County, Virginia, died in June, 1812. In early life, William Haynes was a merchant, but he soon gave up that occupation for farming. Dr. McElhenney says:

"The first family I visited in the field of my mission (Greenbrier and Monroe) was that of William Haynes, in the 'Gap,' in Monroe County, and in his house I delivered my first sermon on the west side of the Alleghany." Four sons and one daughter made up William Haynes' family, as follows: James Madison, born February 17, 1794; Agnes D., born April 2, 1797; Andrew S., born May 11, 1799; William P., born August 2, 1802; and Thomas N., born August 9, 1805. Agnes D. Haynes was married in the winter of 1819 to Michael Erskine, of Monroe. Her husband, after many removals, settled in Guadalupe County, Texas, where she died, leaving five sons,—John, Andrew, William, Michael and Alexander,—and five daughters,—Catherine, Margaret, Malinda, Ellen and Agnes. Andrew S. Haynes had only fairly commenced business at the old homestead (the McNutt farm) when he died, February 14, 1824. William P. Haynes, after leaving Lewisburg Academy, where all the children of William Haynes were educated, graduated in medicine in Philadelphia and fixed upon Alabama as the field best suited to the practice of his profession; but death, in the month of November, 1825, nipped his promises of usefulness in the very flower of his

youth. Thomas N. Haynes also graduated in medicine in Philadelphia, and practiced for a short time in Monroe County with success and acceptability. He went to various parts of the South, and died about 30 years ago in Texas, having been greatly afflicted with rheumatism. His practice was almost relinquished in his middle and later life. He was never married.

James Madison Haynes followed farming more or less all his life—nine years on the McNutt farm and then 10 years on the present site of Rowan's woolen factory, on Second Creek, in Monroe County. In the fall of 1840 he removed to the Greenbrier River, five miles below Alderson, where, after years of suffering from inflammatory rheumatism, he died January 4, 1858. For a long time, Mr. Haynes was a magistrate of Monroe County, often a commissioner of the court, and in a great many cases was selected as an arbitrator of differences between his fellow citizens. Though often most earnestly solicited to represent his county in the Legislature, he steadfastly refused to become a candidate. James Madison Haynes was married September 10, 1821, at Union, Monroe County, to Isabella Dunlap, and they had six children who attained to adult age: Capt. William Haynes, of Summers

County, deceased in March, 1897, who held many offices of trust before and after the war, having been a member, from Summers County, of the West Virginia Convention of 1871 to revise the State Constitution; Alexander D. Haynes, who was a successful merchant of Red Sulphur Springs, represented Monroe County in the Legislature of Virginia in 1856, and died at Red Sulphur Springs November 14, 1857; Robert P. Haynes, who was a major of militia before the war, entered the regular service of the Confederacy in the 26th Battalion of Virginia Infantry, was captured at Cold Harbor, and a few days after the battle was killed by a railroad collision, July 16, 1864, while on his way to Elmira, New York, as a prisoner of war; Rev. James Haynes was the fourth son, and mention of his life is given elsewhere in this sketch; Catherine, who lived with her brother, James; and Mrs. Jane A. Caraway, wife of William Caraway, of Alderson.

Rev. James Haynes, the father of our subject, entered Washington College in 1855, and graduated in 1859. He then entered Union Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church, and was graduated in 1862, being licensed by the Greenbrier Presbytery the same year, at Muddy Creek, and

ordained the following year in the Lewisburg Presbyterian Church. After preaching one year at Anthony's Creek, he entered the Confederate Army as chaplain in the spring of 1863, and continued as such until the close of the war. He preached at Muddy Creek from 1865 to 1870, when he was placed in charge of an evangelical field in Fayette County for two years, making his home at Gauley Bridge. He later resided at Cotton Hill, Fayette County, but died in 1900, at St. Clair, Tennessee, possessing the respect and confidence of fellow workers of the church, both clergy and laity. He married Susan E. Shanklin, who still survives and is a resident of St. Clair, Tennessee. She is a daughter of Andrew Davison Shanklin, who was born in Monroe County, near Greenville, West Virginia, and was a son of one of the early pioneers of that section. Andrew Davison Shanklin's father was born July 13, 1777, and soon after his marriage, May 18, 1802, to Polly Shirky, settled on Indian Creek, Monroe County, Virginia, now West Virginia. He was the first settler in that section, and raised a family of 10 children, namely: Agnes Davison, Elizabeth Poage, Richard Vare, James, Sarah, John Shirky, Andrew Davison, Nicholas, William Frazier, and Mary

Ann. The Shanklin family came from the Valley of Virginia and settled in Monroe County when it was practically a wilderness. The old Shanklin stone house is still standing on Indian Creek. Andrew Davison Shanklin lived and died on a part of the old home place in Monroe County, and his one child was Susan E., who married Rev. James Haynes. In the early "fifties" Andrew Davison Shanklin journeyed west and took up land in Central Indiana, which he sold at the beginning of the Civil War. His sister, Mrs. Andrew Young, took up 1,000 acres of land in Indiana, a part of which tract is now included in the limits of the city of Logansport.

Dr. Haynes was the third member of a family of 12 children born to his parents, the others being: James Madison, deceased; Davison Shanklin, of Evansville, Indiana; Rebecca, of St. Clair, Tennessee; Agnes, of Tennessee; William M., of Fairmont, West Virginia; Andrew Nelson, who died aged three years; Mary, of Clarksburg, West Virginia; Herbert H., of Evansville, Indiana; and Susan, Aurelia and Ella, of St. Clair, Tennessee. Dr. Haynes was reared in Greenbrier and Fayette counties and also spent a portion of time with his maternal grandfather in Monroe County. His gen-

eral training and medical education were carefully attended to, the former in private and public schools and the latter in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore, Maryland. He was graduated in the class of 1896, at the latter institution. Prior to this, he had hospital experience, being secretary of the board of directors of the West Virginia Insane Hospital at Weston, and was connected with it from 1888 to 1895. After graduating, he engaged in the practice of his profession at Weston, for 18 months, and on November 1, 1897, located at Clarksburg. Dr. Haynes has taken advantage of every opportunity to perfect his skill and knowledge, and in 1901 took a special course in surgery at the New York Post-Graduate and Polyclinic schools.

On October 15, 1896, Dr. Haynes married Hattie Gaylord, of Weston, West Virginia, and two daughters have been born to them, Aurelia Christine and Harriet Jean. Dr. Haynes belongs to the county and State medical associations and is the active and efficient vice president of the latter. His ability is very generally recognized in his locality, and he is numbered among the representative professional men of Harrison County.



CYRUS OSCAR STRIEBY.

CYRUS OSCAR STRIEBY, a well known and successful legal practitioner of Davis, Tucker County, West Virginia, was born in 1866, at Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and is a son of Henry J. and Rachel (Ridge) Strieby, the former of whom was also born at Williamsport, and the latter in Tioga County, Pennsylvania.

Henry J. Strieby was born at Williamsport, Pennsylvania, in 1835, and now resides at his pleasant country home in Hampshire County, West Virginia. He was a school teacher in his earlier years and at one time served as auditor of Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. Later he engaged in milling and farming, but now lives retired. His

political sympathy is with the Democratic party. The mother of our subject was born in 1843 in Tioga County, Pennsylvania. Both Mr. and Mrs. Strieby belong to the Lutheran Church. They reared six children,—three sons and three daughters.

Cyrus Oscar Strieby was educated in the common schools of his native locality and at the Muncy Normal School, and then accompanied his parents to Hampshire County, West Virginia. There he taught in the district schools for three years, and one year in Morgan County and then took a four-year course in the Susquehanna University, and was graduated in 1889. Removing then to Tucker County as a teacher, one year later he entered the office of W. B. Maxwell, with whom he read law for six months, continuing a study to which he had already given much attention. In December, 1890, he was admitted to the bar and began practice in Tucker County in 1891. For three years he was in partnership with W. B. Maxwell, but now conducts an individual practice which is in every way satisfactory. He enjoys a large local practice in Tucker County, which occasionally extends beyond its limits into the adjoining counties. He also has a good practice in the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia,

which has been marked by a high degree of success.

On April 16, 1896, Mr. Strieby was married to Addie Adams, who was born in St. George, Tucker County, in 1871, and is a daughter of John J. and Angelica Adams. The children born to this union are: Elenora and Ruth. Mr. Strieby is identified with the Democratic party. Both he and his wife belong to the Lutheran Church.



CHARLES WESLEY RIGGS, M. D.

CHARLES WESLEY RIGGS, M. D., who since 1898 has been established in successful practice of medicine at Cameron, Marshall County, West Virginia, was born in 1866 in

Pleasant Valley, Marshall County, West Virginia, and is a son of Simeon and Mary Ann (Ogle) Riggs, the former of whom was also born in Pleasant Valley, and died in 1898, aged 58 years. Simeon Riggs' business life was spent as merchant, farmer and salesman. He was identified in politics with the Republican party. The mother of Dr. Riggs was born at Rock Lick, Marshall County, and passed away in her 42nd year. Both parents were consistent members of the Methodist Church. They had a family of four children born to them, namely: Charles Wesley, Ermina L., wife of Bruce Crow, Laban A. and Elsie May, an infant, deceased.

Dr. Riggs secured his literary education at West Liberty and Moundsville and prepared for college under Dr. William Woodruff, at Limestone. In 1894 he entered Starling Medical College from which he was graduated in 1900. Having registered both in Ohio and in West Virginia, he entered at once upon the practice of his profession. He located first at Piney Fork, Wetzel County, but in 1898 removed to Cameron and was cordially welcomed and has practiced there with success ever since. He was appointed by Governor A. B. White as a delegate to the third annual session of the

American Congress of Tuberculosis, held in the city of New York on May 14-15-16, 1902, in joint session with the Medico-Legal Society.

In 1898 Dr. Riggs married Sarah Alice Smart, who was born in Pleasant Valley in 1877, and is a daughter of John and Sarah (Terrill) Smart. One child, Edna Theodosia, was born, April 9, 1901. Mrs. Riggs was reared in the Christian Church, but the Doctor is a Baptist. In politics he adheres to the principles of the Republican party. He is fraternally connected with various secret organizations in which his pleasing personality makes him popular.

GEORGE L. ZOECKLER. — Stall No. 21, of the Second Ward Market, at Fulton, Ohio County, West Virginia, has been longer occupied than any in the town. It may also be said that there is no busier center of activity, for the enterprising proprietor understands the advertising value of business integrity, and likewise provides meats and provisions of such excellent quality as to find ready market among the best lovers of the vicinity. Much of the success of Mr. Zoekler may be attributed to those reliable traits of character handed down from an indutrious German ancestry, although he

is a native of Wheeling, where he was born in 1858.

His father, also named George, was born in Grunberg, Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany, and came to America with his parents in 1850 when but 18 years of age.

George Zoeckler readily adapted himself to American conditions, and became widely known in Wheeling and Fulton. He was the originator of the business now conducted by his son, and during his entire active life was engaged in the meat business. At his shop near Fulton he carried on a satisfactory trade, and also became interested in politics; he was one of the bulwarks of the Republican party in his section. He possessed shrewd ability in various directions, and his life, terminated November 17, 1891, at the age of 58 years, might well have extended its usefulness for yet another score. Mrs. Zoeckler, who was formerly Catherine Grimmell, was also born in Hessen-Darmstadt, came to America in 1852, and is at present 67 years of age. Aside from her son, George L., her daughter, Minnie (Mrs. John Roth), also lives in Fulton, the latter being the wife of one of the Roth brothers, engaged in the feed business.

In 1889 George L. Zoeckler succeeded to his father's business, which

he at once proceeded to enlarge and conduct according to the most modern and approved methods. At present he is able to employ five assistants, and aside from a large wholesale business runs two wagons to Wheeling and vicinity twice a week, to supply his patrons in the city. The butchering is done at his own slaughter houses and he packs some meat, having two large ice-houses. The capacity of the establishment varies according to the weather and time of the year.

The Zoeckler home in Fulton is a fine and hospitable place. It is presided over by Mrs. Zoeckler, formerly Emma Ebeling, who was born in December, 1857, and is a daughter of August Ebeling, one of the early residents of Ohio County. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Zoeckler, as follows: Oscar, who is 21 years of age, and assists his father in his business; John, who is 19 years old, and also works with his father; Eddie, who is 11 years of age, and George, Jr., who is nine years old, both of whom are attending school; Clyde Ebeling and Harry, who died at an early age; and Katie, who died of diphtheria when 10 years of age. Politically Mr. Zoeckler is a Republican, and cast his first presidential vote for Garfield. On several occasions his fellow townsmen

have demonstrated their confidence by electing him to positions of trust, and he has been a member of the City Council of Fulton a number of times. His father was at first a Democrat, but later gave his allegiance to the Republican party. An interesting item in connection with this early pioneer is the fact that he bought the first \$500 bond at Wheeling during the progress of the Civil War. The entire Zoeckler family are members of St. John's German Independent Protestant Church.



COL. JAMES HENRY MILLER.

COL. JAMES HENRY MILLER, a member of the law firm of Miller & Read, of Hinton, Summers County, West Virginia, was born December 29, 1856, on Lick Creek, at Green

Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County, Virginia, now West Virginia. He is a son of William Erskine and Sarah Barbara (McNeer) Miller, both of whom were born in Virginia.

The Miller family originated in Ireland and its first representative in this country was Mr. Miller's great-great-grandfather, who immigrated to America from Ireland. Our subject's great-grandfather, Patrick Miller, was born on the voyage between Ireland and America. James Henry Miller's ancestors settled on the present site of Staunton, Virginia. John Miller, son Patrick Miller, was born in Bath County, Virginia, and settled in Greenbrier County shortly after the Revolutionary War. He married Jane Hodge of Bath County and they reared a family of 11 children, none of whom survive.

William Erskine Miller, son of John Miller, and father of the subject of these lines, was born in that part of Greenbrier County that is now included in Summers County, and spent his whole life there, dying in 1900, aged 74 years. He married Sarah Barbara McNeer, who was born in Monroe County, being a daughter of Richard McNeer, of Scotch descent. Her death took place in 1896 at the age of 68 years.

James Henry Miller is the third

member of a family of four children born to his parents, namely: Mary B., of Hinton, West Virginia; C. L., of Foss, Summers County; James Henry; and A. E., who is general manager of the New River Grocery Company (wholesale) at Hinton. Mr. Miller was educated in the public schools and graduated at the Concord Normal School in 1880, following which he taught school in the free schools of his county for some 30 months. He entered upon the reading of the law with Hon. W. W. Adams, of Hinton, and took a course at the University of Virginia. In 1881 he was admitted to the bar and entered upon the practice of the law in partnership with Hon. Elbert Fowler, and later, after Mr. Fowler's death, with his preceptor, Hon. W. W. Adams. Upon the death of the latter, he formed a partnership with Thomas N. Read, the present style of the firm being Miller & Read.

On February 1, 1882, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Jane T. Miller, of Gauley Bridge, Fayette County, West Virginia, and four children have been born to this union: Grace Chapman, Jean, Daisy and James H., Jr. Mr. Miller has been prominently identified with the public school system, and in 1881 entered upon one term's service as county su-

perintendent. In 1884 he was made regent of the State Normal schools, and served through two appointments. In 1881 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Summers County and served through four terms,—16 years. He also served several years as fish commissioner. He has been very prominent in the Democratic party, was nominated for State Auditor on the Democratic ticket in 1900, was chairman of the Democratic State Executive Committee in the campaign of 1900 and is the present chairman and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, held in Chicago in 1896, which nominated W. J. Bryan. For a space of 14 years he served as chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of the Third Congressional District of West Virginia. In 1892 he was chosen as the Democratic candidate for Congress from the Third Congressional District, and in the election following reduced the normal Republican majority about 3,000 votes.

Mr. Miller is a Mason of high degree, and is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Improved Order of Red Men and Ancient Order of United Workmen. He has long been identified with the National Guards of West Virginia and was the organizer

of the Hinton Light Infantry Guards, of which he served as captain until August 15, 1889, when he was made lieutenant-colonel. This honorable rank he resigned on account of press of private business. He is held in high esteem in Hinton and is regarded as one of the ablest lawyers in his section of the State.



HON. WILLIAM GRAY BARNHART.

HON. WILLIAM GRAY BARNHART, member of the West Virginia House of Delegates, from Red House Shoals, Putnam County, a lawyer by profession and one of the ablest young legislators of the State, was born April 15, 1880, near Buffalo, Putnam Coun-

ty, and is a son of Lewis and Isabel Barnhart, and grandson of Stephen and Perthana Barnhart.

The Barnhart family is of German extraction, the pioneers settling in New Jersey in the early history of that settlement and their descendants going thence westward to Lancaster, Washington and Greene counties, Pennsylvania, and to Ohio and Illinois.

Lewis Barnhart was born April 23, 1850, in Greene County, Pennsylvania. His mother died when he was seven years of age. He resided with his grandparents, going to school, doing chores, etc., during the Civil War period, and then returned to his father in Marshall County, West Virginia, and removed from there to Putnam County. He was ambitious and managed, by further study during intervals of farm work, to secure a good, common-school education, and at the age of 25 years held a State teacher's certificate, and at the age of 27 years was admitted to the bar. He was elected county superintendent of free schools soon after. Mr. Barnhart has for many years devoted himself to the law and to the sale of real estate. In politics he is a Democrat and has taken an active part in politics. The mother of our subject was born in 1852 in Marshall County, Virginia, now West Vir-

ginia, and is a daughter of William I. and Eliza A. Hartley. In 1870 she was united in marriage with Lewis Barnhart. She is a devout member of the Christian Church. In addition to being a successful attorney, Lewis Barnhart is also a civil engineer and has had completed a fine map of Putnam County, which he surveyed, on which are located the district outlines, the villages, roads, streams, and the industries of the county. He is fraternally connected with Wilkes Lodge, No. 60, Knights of Pythias, at Winfield.

Hon. William G. Barnhart was educated in the common schools, and began teaching at the age of 17 years, at the same time beginning the reading of the law with his father. After a short course in the law department at the West Virginia University, he was admitted to the bar, and located at Winfield, the county seat of Putnam County. In the spring of 1902 he was nominated by the Democratic party for the House of Delegates, and was elected, in a Republican district of 460 plurality, by a majority of 360 over Hon. James H. Collins, one of the best known Republicans in the district, who had already served two terms in the Legislature.

Mr. Barnhart is a clear and forcible

speaker, a thinker of unusual ability and an active member of the House. His rapid rise in his profession and in public esteem are but indications of still higher honors awaiting him in the future.



TIMOTHY LAWRENCE BARBER, A. M., M. D.

TIMOTHY LAWRENCE BARBER, A. M., M. D., a prominent physician and surgeon of Charleston, West Virginia, was born in Plymouth, Indiana, October 4, 1853. He is a son of Daniel and Ann (Hulverson) Barber, the former of English descent, the latter, a native of Norway.

The Barber family is an old one and was founded in America by an an-

cestor who came to Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1630, and was one of the first settlers at Windsor, Connecticut. He was prominent in the early Indian wars and many of the family were engaged in the Revolutionary War and held conspicuous positions in professional and military life.

The grandfather of Dr. Barber was Timothy Barber, who settled at Syracuse, New York, when it was but a crossroads. Later he moved his family west and settled on the land where Chicago now stands, but finding it a marshy, unpromising field for farming, he removed back into the northern part of Indiana, and settled in Marshall County, where he remained some years and where his children continued to live. He went back to New York State, and not long after lost his life in an accident.

Daniel Barber, the father of Dr. Barber, grew to manhood in Marshall County, Indiana, and became the owner of a moderate estate. He married a daughter of one of the sturdy Norwegian families that settled in the same county, and there reared a family of six children, one of whom, Levi, died there in infancy. Business misfortunes deprived him of all his belongings in Indiana, and he removed with his family of five children to Dodge

County, Wisconsin, living at Mayville, Horicon and Beaver Dam (1864-67). Besides being a farmer in Indiana, he ran a flouring mill, which trade he followed in his Wisconsin homes. While residing in Wisconsin, his eldest daughter, Sophia, was married to William H. Roper, who removed with her to Emmetsburg, Iowa, where she died. With the rest of his family, Daniel Barber went to Petroleum Center, Pennsylvania, to join a brother, Levi Barber, who was engaged in refining oil. After a couple of years' stay there a disastrous oil fire destroyed the plant and killed his brother. He then took his family back to Plymouth, Indiana, where he lived till his death, in 1871, his wife surviving him but a year.

The only schooling Dr. Barber had was that afforded in the public schools of the various localities in which he lived, until, upon the invitation of a relative at Marietta, Ohio, he was privileged to receive a college education at Marietta College, graduating there in 1877. For the subsequent two or three years, he taught school and tutored boys for college, using his spare time in the study of medicine. By dint of perseverance and good fortune, he was enabled to secure a scholarship at the University of Pennsylvania upon competitive examination, thus gaining all

the advantages of this foremost medical school of America, with no cost but his living expenses. He graduated in medicine there in 1882, securing the degree of M. D. and about the same time also that of A. M. from his alma mater, Marietta College.

Dr. Barber settled in Charleston, West Virginia, where from a modest beginning he has risen to be one of the foremost physicians of the Capitol City, as well as of the large territory adjacent. He has been conspicuously identified with the professional organizations and advancements of his city, county and State, being a moving factor in the medical societies,—city, county, State and national. He is now the president and health officer of his city and county boards of health, as well as an organizer of the State Medical Association. He is a close student and devoted to his profession and is regarded as progressive yet conservative. In 1901 he traveled in Europe and visited many of the medical centers and enjoyed the advantages of study in their hospitals and clinics. Since his return he has been engaged in establishing a sanatorium for the private treatment of diseases with electricity, X-rays, massage and baths, having taken a special course at the Illinois

School of Electro-Therapeutics. To this branch of the healing art he expects to devote his future time and energy, to which, if he applies the same energy that characterizes him, the Capitol City will one day enjoy a sanatorium that will do it credit.

In 1882 Dr. Barber married Sarah R. Couch, daughter of James H. Couch, a prominent lawyer of Mason County, West Virginia. She died one year later with her first babe. In 1885, he married Lucy Brown, a daughter of Judge James H. Brown, of Charleston, West Virginia, and sister of Hon. J. F. Brown, at present a prominent attorney of that city. Seven children have been born to this union—five boys and two girls—the oldest boy, James Brown Barber, having died in 1901, at the age of 15 years. The Doctor is an elder in the Kanawha Presbyterian Church, a prominent Sabbath-school worker, a member of the different Masonic organizations, one of the local U. S. pension examiners, examiner for a large number of prominent life insurance companies, surgeon to the K. & M. Railroad, in general politics an adherent of the Republican party, and yet regards the character of the local government as above any party that may aspire to run it.



MILES HENDERSON EPLIN.

MILES HENDERSON EPLIN, whose term of service as county superintendent of the schools of Kanawha County, West Virginia, will begin July 1, 1903, is a much esteemed and prominent citizen of Marmet. He was born January 1, 1844, in Giles County, Virginia, and is a son of Christopher and Melinda (Nidy) Eplin, both of whom were also born in Virginia. The former died in middle life, but the latter survived until the age of 75 years, passing away in 1885. Christopher Eplin was engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Miles H. Eplin was the youngest of a family of eight children. His early educational ad-

vantages were limited, in fact it may be stated that he was trained in no school but that of adversity. At the age of 17 he became a soldier in the Civil War, enlisting September 2, 1861, in Company B, 8th Reg., West Virginia Vol. Inf., which later formed a part of the 7th Cavalry Regiment. Although four years of his life were devoted to army service, it was not a wasted season to the young man, whose quick intelligence turned his experiences into a means of education.

Upon his return to Kanawha County, Mr. Eplin engaged in teaching school, in the meantime following courses of reading and study, and very efficiently filled the office of secretary of the Loudoun district Board of Education, for a period of 30 years. He was elected in 1893 and served two terms as assessor of the Lower district, and in the fall of 1902 he was elected to the office of superintendent of the schools of Kanawha County. His life has been devoted to educational interests and he has acceptably filled local positions and during one term was school commissioner.

In 1866 Mr. Eplin married Sarah J. Brown, who was born in Kanawha County, and is a daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Brown, old and respected residents of their community.

Three of Mr. and Mrs. Eplin's family of nine children still survive, namely: Albert W.; Mrs. Julia Harold; and Jesse C. The religious connection of the family is with the Methodist Church. In politics he is a Republican. Fraternally he belongs to the Odd Fellows, Red Men, Knights of Pythias and George Crook Post, G. A. R., at Charleston.

J. N. VANCE, who has been prominently identified with the iron and steel interests of West Virginia for many years, is a well known resident of Wheeling. He was born and reared in Ohio County, West Virginia, and there have his business activities been centered.

Mr. Vance conducted an iron store in Wheeling until 1861, when the firm of Dewey, Vance & Company was organized and began the manufacture of merchant bar iron. A plant was erected in the Sixth Ward, near the hill, and another was erected in 1866 near the river. The latter is still standing and was used as a nail factory for some years. The firm began operations in Benwood in 1872, having erected a first-class blast furnace, 18 by 70 feet in dimensions. W. H. Russell retired from the firm in 1865, after four years connection with the business. William

L. Hearne became a member of the firm in 1866. It was operated as a private enterprise until 1875, when the Riverside Iron Works were incorporated by J. N. Vance, William L. Hearne, John D. Culbertson, N. Wilkinson and Frank J. Hearne, being chartered under the laws of West Virginia. The officers elected were: J. N. Vance, president; N. Wilkinson, secretary; and John D. Culbertson, William L. Hearne and N. Wilkinson, directors. The plant was then located at Benwood. The nail factory was operated until 1888 and was afterward abandoned, all interests being concentrated at Benwood as the Riverside Iron Works. Eleven acres were first bought, and now the plant occupies 90 acres, having ample room for railroad tracks and other necessary equipment. A Bessemer steel plant was erected about 1886 and also tube works, which enable them to manufacture all kinds of steel steam, gas and water pipes. As the business grew, the tube works were enlarged until they became one of the largest and finest mills in the country, constituting a distinct plant. A large blast furnace is now being completed. They lost their identity as the Riverside Iron Works in March, 1899, in a sale to the National Tube Company, which in the spring of 1901 became a constituent of the United States Steel

Corporation. At that time the business of the company amounted to \$6,000,000 annually, and employed over 2,000 men. About 2,500 men are now employed. When the business was established about 300 men were employed, and in 1866 not to exceed 500. The capital stock originally was \$15,000, and during the first three years of its existence the company leased the old mill, which they then purchased. When sold, the Riverside Iron Works had a capital stock of \$3,000,000, which had been increased from the surplus funds after paying quarterly dividends. During the past 11 years the company has operated a blast furnace at Steubenville, Ohio. Mr. Vance became a director in the National Tube Company and continued as such until it became a part of the United States Steel Corporation, when he resigned. Frank J. Hearne is president of the tube department of the United States Steel Corporation, John D. Culbertson, treasurer, and E. L. Wiles, general manager of the Riverside department of the same corporation.

Mr. Vance is president of the National Exchange Bank of Wheeling, and is also at the head of the Vance Shoe Company. The manufacturing plant of the latter concern is located at Pullman, Illinois, and the Chicago end

of the business is in charge of J. C. Riheldaffer. Mr. Vance's son, H. E. Vance, is president of the Vance Shoe Company, and W. F. Shaffer is secretary. J. N. Vance has many other interests in Wheeling and Chicago and in the State of Alabama. As a business man he is shrewd and far-sighted, and the wonderful success which has attended his career is due solely to his own efforts.



VERNON C. CHAMPE.

VERNON C. CHAMPE, attorney-at-law, at Montgomery, Fayette County, West Virginia, was born in Montgomery, January 11, 1879, and is a son of William F. and Annie (Montgomery) Champe.

The Champe family is of French

extraction and settled in Virginia at an early date. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Sewall Champe, was born in Bedford County, Virginia, settled at Charleston, Kanawha County, and died there, aged 50 years.

William F. Champe, our subject's father, was born at Charleston, Kanawha County. He removed to Montgomery in 1873, but did not permanently locate there until 1877. The mother of our subject is a daughter of James Montgomery, who was a pioneer in the district of Fayette County. The other members of our subject's parents' family are: Nile; Emory and Hallie, who are still students.

Vernon C. Champe was reared at Montgomery, and attended the local schools there and an intermediate school at Charleston. Later he went to Greenbrier Military Academy and in 1895 entered the University of West Virginia, where he was graduated in the class of 1898. Mr. Champe read law prior to entering the University and was very thoroughly prepared. In 1900 he began the practice of his profession at Montgomery, in partnership with C. W. Osenton, who is now prosecuting attorney of Fayette County and an ex-State Senator. Since this time, Mr. Champe has engaged very successfully in practice alone. In 1900

he was appointed a United States commissioner, by Judge Jackson.

Mr. Champe belongs to Lodge No. 74, A. F. & A. M., at Montgomery, and retains his membership with the college fraternity, Phi Sigma Kappa. He has been very active in Democratic politics and was elected city attorney in 1902. He is also secretary of the Democratic County Committee and in 1902 was assistant to the chairman of that body. He belongs to the Presbyterian Church.



JAMES A. STROTHER.

JAMES A. STROTHER, mayor of Welch, McDowell County, West Virginia, senior member of the law

firm of Strother, Taylor & Strother, and one of the leading citizens, was born in Culpeper County, Virginia, January 13, 1870.

His father, Hon. John R. Strother, is prominent in State politics, and in early life was an attorney. Later he engaged in farming and is still so occupied, at the age of 65 years. In the early "seventies" he served in the State Legislature, both in the upper and the lower house. The Strother family is an old and honorable one in Virginia, of English descent. The mother of our subject belonged to the Payne family of Madison County, Virginia, and the grandmother to the old Wilhoit family, early German settlers in the iron regions of Virginia. The sons of Hon. John R. Strother, exclusive of our subject, are: G. F., a lumberman of Welch, West Virginia; J. H., a merchant of Welch, West Virginia; and Philip, of Culpeper County, Virginia, where the daughters, three in number, of the family also reside.

James A. Strother has attained his prominence mainly through his own efforts. His complete knowledge of the law and jurisprudence was gained almost entirely through private reading, and he was admitted to the bar in Culpeper County, Virginia, after a

very short course at the University of Virginia. In 1891 he removed to Welch, and for a season was a law partner of W. H. Stokes. In 1901 a partnership was formed by J. A. and D. J. F. Strother and W. L. Taylor, under the firm name of Strother, Taylor & Strother. The business is general practice, including a great deal of corporation work. The firm has built commodious office rooms in the vicinity of the Norfolk & Western Railway depot and commands a large part of the patronage of the county.

In politics Mr. Strother was formerly a Democrat, but has latterly been identified with the Republican party. He has served the town in the capacity of mayor for the past seven years, being elected on a non-partisan ticket each year. In 1896 he was a candidate for the State Senate on the Democratic ticket, but was defeated.

In 1894 Mr. Strother was married to a daughter of T. S. Taylor, ex-sheriff of Giles County, Virginia. They have one daughter, Mary James, three years old. The family attend the Protestant Episcopal Church. Fraternally Mr. Strother is a Mason, belonging to the blue lodge at Welch and the chapter at Bramwell; and is also an Odd Fellow and an Elk.



NEIL JUDSON FORTNEY.

NEIL JUDSON FORTNEY, who is now serving his fifth term as prosecuting attorney of Preston County, West Virginia, was born November 22, 1849, near Independence, Preston County, Virginia, now West Virginia. He is a son of David H. Fortney, whose father came to Maryland, from France, and whose mother was of German ancestry. In 1865 David H. Fortney removed with his family to Indianola, Iowa.

Neil Judson Fortney attended the local schools in his native locality and after the family removed to Iowa he became a student in Simpson Centenary College. In 1870 he took an extended tour through the West, in-

creasing his fund of general knowledge, engaging in various callings and frequently corresponding for the press. He returned to Preston County, West Virginia, in 1874 and then entered upon the study of the law; he was made deputy county clerk, and in 1879 was admitted to the bar, since which time he has become prominent in his profession, valued in political circles and esteemed in the social and domestic life of Kingwood. In 1880, Mr. Fortney was first elected prosecuting attorney, and he entered upon the duties of that responsible position, on January 1, 1881. At the close of his term of four years, he was re-elected by an increased majority and at the expiration of his second term he was elected again to the same office by a still greater majority, and served the full term of four years. He was elected in 1898 to fill the last two years of the unexpired term of his successor, and in 1900 was again elected by a greater majority than at any previous election, and is now serving out the fifth term to which he has been elected, at the end of which he will have served 18 years in all, as noted. His ability and industry, his carefulness, fairness and promptness, have contributed to his success and his capable handling of the important cases brought before

him during his long term of office, has given him a reputation all over the State.

On June 3, 1879, Mr. Fortney was united in marriage with Alice Edna Godwin, the eldest daughter of Capt. Joseph M. Godwin, of Kingwood, West Virginia. In politics, Mr. Fortney is a Republican.



HON. ALSTON GORDON DAYTON.

HON. ALSTON GORDON DAYTON, Member of Congress from the Second Congressional District of West Virginia, and the junior member of the well known law firm of Dayton & Dayton, with whom is associated Frederick D. Blue, at Philippi, Barbour

County, West Virginia, was born in that town October 18, 1857, Barbour County then being a part of the State of Virginia.

Mr. Dayton attended the public schools and entered the West Virginia University as a student, at the age of 16 years, where he was graduated in June, 1878, with his degree of A. B. During his college course he had devoted time to the study of the law, and he was admitted to the bar on his 21st birthday, and immediately entered into partnership with his father, which partnership still continues. Two years later he was appointed prosecuting attorney of Upshur County, and soon after received the Republican nomination for the same office in his home county of Barbour, but, while running considerably ahead of his ticket, was defeated by a small majority. In 1884 he again received his party's nomination for the same office, and was elected, being the first Republican to fill the office since the Civil War. In 1888 he was a candidate for judge of the Circuit Court, but failed of receiving the nomination by two votes. In 1890 his friends presented his name before the Republican convention at Piedmont, as a candidate for Congress from the Second Congressional District of West Virginia, which position was then held by Hon. William

L. Wilson, author of the "Wilson Tariff Bill." Mr. Wilson was a most formidable antagonist, and the belief was general that only a man from the eastern part of the State could defeat him, so the choice of this convention was Hon. George Harman, a wealthy farmer of Grant County. In 1894, however, Mr. Dayton was the choice of the convention which met at Elkins, to run against Mr. Wilson, who was still in Congress, having defeated Mr. Harman in 1890. Mr. Wilson stood as the victorious champion of a victorious party and was confident of success. The campaign was a memorable one, unequaled in the campaigns of the State, but Mr. Dayton showed that he was well equipped to meet the redoubtable Wilson and no quarter was either given or asked. The discussions were warm, although waged with the courtesy and fairness for which both statesmen are noted. The result was an overwhelming victory for Mr. Dayton, his majority being over 2000. In 1896 he was re-elected; again in 1898, and in 1900 and 1902. He is now serving his fifth consecutive term.

Mr. Dayton's career in Congress has been one of steady and powerful influence and growth. He was first placed on the naval committee, then one of the smallest and least consequential

committees in the House. He took up the work in earnest and took a leading part from the start, and to him as much as to any other member is due the distinguished credit and honor of bringing this branch of the government up to its present prominence and power. When he entered Congress we had only three battleships in commission, and three in course of construction. He was a believer in a strong navy and advocated the construction of war ships of the most powerful class. The result is the splendid naval armament we now have. The naming of the powerful armored cruiser, "West Virginia," was a compliment to him. When Mr. Dayton first took his stand in favor of battleships as against smaller craft, there had never been a battleship in action, for that class of vessels was an experiment; but with the battle of Santiago, July 3, 1898, and the advent of such vessels as the "Oregon" it is no longer an experiment. Mr. Dayton took a foremost place in the promotion of dry docks as a part of the naval establishment, and four such were provided, at Portsmouth, Virginia, at Boston, at League Island and at Algiers, Louisiana.

Among other notable services rendered his constituents, Mr. Dayton has taken great interest in the veterans of

the Civil War, and has been able to procure many pensions and promotions for the soldiers of West Virginia. He introduced a bill which passed the Senate, providing for the promotion of Lieut. R. M. G. Brown, of Preston County, West Virginia, upon the retired list of the navy, in recognition of his services in saving lives and property during the great storm in the Samoan Islands. He aided materially in securing the appropriation of \$5,000,000 to open the Monongahela to free navigation, and for the construction of locks and dams in the river between Morgantown and Fairmont. Mr. Dayton has rendered valuable services in the geological surveys of the State, and rectified in Congress the mistakes made in the omission of data and visible monuments on which, in every county seat in the United States, the true north and south line of the place is marked. Alaska was purchased from Russia in 1866 and the laws of Oregon were made to apply to that territory. In 1898 a Congressional committee was appointed, of which Mr. Dayton was a member, which prepared a code for Alaska, in which Mr. Dayton did a large part of the work. For 10 days the House debated the code, during which time Mr. Dayton championed the bill, debating with the best lawyers, and Congress

passed the bill. His best work, up to that time, was in connection with the "Navy Personnel Bill,"—to regulate the line of promotions in the navy; to give all an equal chance; to equalize the pay of both civil and naval officers and to correct and regulate the course of study at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis. By this bill a great and practical reform was brought about in the navy. Mr. Dayton was its champion and made a number of speeches that showed his mastery of the subject; and he has since been noted in the House as an authority on naval affairs. The bill became a law and the naval officers gave a banquet at Washington to Mr. Dayton and his confreres. The whole country is beginning to see the wisdom of his foresight and courage. He received the commendation of Rear-Admiral W. T. Sampson and other noted naval officers. After the blowing up of the "Maine" in Havana harbor, there was increasing excitement in Congress and the country. It was a time for coolness and courage. It was for the Congressman from the Second Congressional District of West Virginia to make the first speech in the House, advocating the independence of Cuba from Spanish rule. He concluded his remarks with these memorable words:

"Two hundred and sixty-six brave men are dead to-day as a result of the 'Maine' tragedy. Over 200,000 have died in Cuba and 250,000 more, mostly women and children, are being held in imprisonment and starved there to-day. We do not know as yet that the Spanish authorities blew up the 'Maine' and destroyed the lives of our seamen, but we do know that Spanish authority is responsible for this wholesale deadly murder in the first degree going on, within 100 miles of our shores. With food and raiment in one hand and with its strong power, backed by the righteous will of 70,000,000 of freemen, this administration must intervene, stop the horror and give Cuba her freedom. This intervention may be done, I hope, peacefully. If so, God be praised; but if not, and it can only be done by war, let it come. Humanity, mercy, charity, and all the attributes of God Himself, will be with us, and *Cuba will be free.*"

During his terms in Congress, Mr. Dayton has kept up his law practice and has taken an active interest in promoting the industrial development of his State and is connected with many private business enterprises. He is a director of The First National Bank at Philippi.

On November 26, 1884, Mr. Day-

ton married Lummie Sinsel, of Grafton, West Virginia. Religiously he is connected with the Presbyterian Church. Fraternally, he belongs to the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias. He owns one of the most beautiful homes in his town and is a power for good in his community. His popularity in the State on account of his distinguished services, is not limited to the Second Congressional District. The dean of the West Virginia Congressmen, he has won a position of eminence from which his friends desire him to retire only to accept higher honors.



I. C. WHITE, A. M., PH. D.

I. C. WHITE, A. M., Ph. D., State Geologist of West Virginia, has attained wide prominence in the science

of geology, and is not only well known in West Virginia and the United States, but in foreign countries as well.

Dr. White was born in what is now Battelle district, Monongalia County, West Virginia, November 1, 1848. His great-grandfather, Grafton White, of English parentage, moved from Baltimore to the vicinity of Morgantown in 1774. Grafton White's son, William, married Mary Darling, a native of Delaware, and moved to the head of Dunkard Creek, where he patented 4,000 acres of land, and thus formed the nucleus of what has been known as the "White Settlement." Michael White, father of our subject, was a son of William and Mary (Darling) White.

Upon the organization of West Virginia University in 1867, Dr. White entered its portals as a cadet and graduated therefrom in 1872. He taught during the fall of 1872 and 1873 in Kenwood School, New Brighton, Pennsylvania, and in Monongalia County, West Virginia, the following year. He was appointed on the Geological Survey of Pennsylvania in 1875, as assistant to Prof. John J. Stevenson, in the survey of Washington and Greene counties and the southern portion of Allegheny and Beaver counties. He took a post-graduate course in ge-

ology and chemistry at Columbia College, New York city, during the winter of 1875-1876, under Newberry and Chandler. He was appointed assistant geologist on the Geological Survey of Pennsylvania in 1876 and given charge of the region on the Pennsylvania and Ohio State line, where differences had arisen between the geologists of those States, concerning the identity of the coal and limestone beds. Dr. White made an exhaustive study of the question in dispute and demonstrated the truth so clearly that his views have never been questioned by either party to the controversy. He was elected professor of geology at West Virginia University in June, 1877, but continued in the service of the Pennsylvania survey during vacations until July 11, 1894, when he was appointed to a position in the United States Geological Survey, his duty being to present a monograph on the bituminous coal fields of Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia, which work he completed and sent in for publication in August, 1888. He afterward engaged in an exhaustive survey of the Alleghany Mountain region around White Sulphur Springs, in parts of Greenbrier, Monroe, Alleghany and Craig counties. He is a voluminous author in his specialty, geology, as the following list of his publications

will show: Report (Q) on Beaver, Allegheny and South Butler counties, 337 pages, 1878; Report (Q²) on Lawrence County and the Ohio line geology, 336 pages, 1879; Report (Q³) on Mercer County, 233 pages, 1880; Report (P) on Permian Fossil Plants, joint author with William F. Fontaine, 143 pages and 38 double-page plates lithographed, 1880; Report (Q⁴) on Crawford and Erie counties, 406 pages, 1881; Report (Q⁵) on Susquehanna and Wayne counties, 243 pages, 1881; Report (Q⁶) on Pike and Monroe counties, 407 pages, 1882; Report (Q⁷) on Wyoming, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Columbia, Montour and Northumberland counties, 404 pages, 1883; Report (T³) on Huntingdon County, 471 pages, 1885; *The Comparative Stratigraphy of the Bituminous Coal Measures in the North Half of the Appalachian Coal Fields*; Vol. I, Oil and Gas, West Virginia Geological Survey, 1899; Vol. II, West Virginia Coal Fields, West Virginia Geological Survey, 1903. Besides these formal publications, Dr. White has contributed numerous articles on scientific subjects to the columns of *Science*, *The American Journal of Science*, *The Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*, *The Virginias*, and others. His notes on the geology of West Virginia taken

during class excursions were reprinted in the West Virginia University catalogues for 1883-84-85. Dr. White has been elected to fellowship in the following scientific societies: American Philosophical Society; American Association for the Advancement of Science; American Geological Society, of which he is treasurer; Maryland Academy of Sciences; Washington Academy of Sciences; New York Academy of Sciences; The Geological Society of Washington; and the National Geographical Society. He bears the degree of A. M., conferred by his alma mater, and the degree of Ph. D., conferred by the University of Arkansas. Dr. White ably filled the chair of geology and natural history in the West Virginia University for many years. He stands at the very forefront of American geologists and is a recognized authority in that science throughout the Union.

In 1893 Dr. White was appointed one of the judges of the Department of Mines and Mining at the Columbian Exposition, and upon the organization of the judges was selected president. In 1897 he was appointed one of the delegates from America to the International Geological Congress which met in St. Petersburg in August of that year. He spent three months

in Russia, traveling over 10,000 miles on two grand excursions through that vast empire, one of which took him across the Ural Mountains, into Siberia, and the other across the Caucasus and to Grozny and Baku, the famous Siberian oil fields. Returning home toward the close of 1897 via Constantinople, Athens, Naples and Gibraltar, he found that the State Geological Commission had during his absence and without his knowledge or consent unanimously elected him as State Geologist to superintend the work of the recently organized Geological Survey of West Virginia. He was a delegate to the convention in 1892 that nominated Harrison, but has always steadfastly refused all political offerings. In 1898 he prepared and published an important bulletin on coal and one on petroleum. He was the first geologist to bring into prominence and apply in a practical way what is known as the "Anticlinical Theory" of oil and gas. Convinced of the essential truth of the "Anticlinical Theory," Dr. White concluded to give his results to the world for the benefit of all, and in the issue of *Science* for June 26, 1885, published an article under the title of "The Geology of Natural Gas," in which the claims and exceptions to the "Anticlinical Theory" were fully set forth. This theory was at once

attacked by Messrs. Ashburner and Chance of the Pennsylvania Geological Survey, but Dr. White put forth such a vigorous battle, aided as he was by Dr. Edward Orton, State Geologist of Ohio, that opposition was soon silenced and the scientific world accepted the theory as demonstrated.

Dr. White started in life without a very large share of the world's goods, but to-day is regarded as one of the leading men in the financial circles of the State.



R. W. McWILLIAMS.

R. W. McWILLIAMS, clerk of the Circuit and Criminal courts of Cabell County, West Virginia, since

1896, was born in 1854 in Harrison County, Virginia, now West Virginia, and is a son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Bailey) McWilliams. The McWilliams family originated in Ireland, from which country came John McWilliams and wife, grandparents, in the early part of the 19th century. They located as pioneers in the Shenandoah Valley. Benjamin McWilliams removed thence to Taylor County about 1845. Prior to the Civil War, he was a railroad man. In that conflict he entered the service of the United States government under Captain Ransom, as brigade wagon-master, and was killed in 1863, aged only 35 years. His wife was a daughter of Thornbury Bailey, of Virginia, and her death took place some years since. The surviving members of the family, aside from our subject, are: Hezekiah B., a locomotive engineer in Texas; and Agnes, wife of C. P. Sincel, of Grafton, Taylor County, West Virginia.

Mr. McWilliams entered into an active business life while still young, beginning as a clerk for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, at Piedmont, West Virginia, where he remained some years and later followed railroad contracting in the West. In 1887 he located at Huntington and was there en-

gaged in the clothing business until 1890, under the firm name of H. B. McWilliams & Company. In 1896 he was elected to his present position after two years of service as city clerk.

In 1875 Mr. McWilliams married Elma V. Lock, daughter of John Lock of Taylor County, West Virginia, and they have reared a family of eight children. Their pleasant family residence is situated on the suburban neutral strip near Huntington. They belong to the Congregational Church. Fraternally, Mr. McWilliams is associated with the Odd Fellows, National Union and Elks.

MILLARD F. GIESEY, a well known architect of the city of Wheeling, West Virginia, is a member of the firm of Giesey & Faris, a partnership that had its beginning in 1899. He was born in Wheeling, September 9, 1856, and is a son of Valentine and Adeline Giesey.

Valentine Giesey, who is still living, was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. His wife was born in Maryland, and died in 1892. They became the parents of the following nine children: Millard F.; Charles E., deceased; William H., a carpenter residing in Wheeling; Mary E., wife of

Harry Turner, an engineer in the glass plant at Bridgeport; James H., of Wheeling; Edward, a carpenter of Wheeling; John L., a contractor of Wheeling; Thomas G., a bricklayer of Steubenville, Ohio; and Albert V., a carpenter who makes his home in Wheeling.

Millard F. Giesey attended the public schools of his native city, and then pursued the study of architecture at home. He practiced his profession for six years, and designed a number of fine buildings in Wheeling and throughout the State. In July, 1899, he formed a partnership with F. F. Faris, who bears an excellent reputation as an architect, and the firm of Giesey & Faris has been a prosperous one from its beginning. They have offices at Nos. 11 and 12 Masonic Temple, and command a high class of patronage.

Mr. Giesey was joined in marriage, on May 22, 1879, with Margaret E. McAdam, who was born September 25, 1859, and is a daughter of James and Alice V. McAdam. Four children have been born to them, one of whom is living, Earl M., who was born November 29, 1884. They are members of the Fourth Street Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Giesey is a member of Wheeling Lodge, No. 9, I. O. O. F.; Wheeling Lodge, No. 4, A. F. & A.

M.; Wheeling Union Chapter, No. 1, R. A. M.; Cyrene Commandery, No. 7, K. T.; and Osiris Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. In politics, the subject of this sketch supports the Republican party.



WILLIAM A. HESLEP, M. D.

WILLIAM A. HESLEP, M. D., a prominent physician of St. Albans, Kanawha County, West Virginia, was born in Raleigh County, Virginia, now West Virginia, August 31, 1857, and is a son of Alexander Jackson and Mary E. (Ross) Helsep, both natives of Virginia.

Alexander Jackson Heslep was a well known citizen of Raleigh County where he followed the carpenter trade

through all his active life. In 1868 he moved to Fayette County and resided there until his death, in 1883, at the age of 65 years. His widow, a native of Montgomery County, Virginia, survived him some years, dying in 1899, aged 72. She was a member of the Methodist Church.

Dr. Heslep was the eldest son of his parents' family of seven children. He was educated in the schools of his native locality and under his father's instruction became a skilled carpenter, working at the trade some 18 years. In boyhood he had cherished the ambition of becoming a physician and the inclination continued with him through all his early manhood. Finally he decided to enter upon the study of medicine, settling to it seriously in 1888. In 1891 he matriculated at Vanderbilt University at Nashville, Tennessee, and he was there graduated in 1892, with his medical degree. Dr. Heslep located first for practice at Fayetteville, removed then to Gauley Bridge and continued there for five years, succeeding very satisfactorily in his profession. Since March, 1898, he has been located at St. Albans and there commands a good share of public patronage and has become widely known for his careful study of his cases.

In 1882 Dr. Heslep married Cora

A. Mahood, who was born in Giles County, Virginia, and three children have been born to them, namely: John Kenneth, Marjorie Cora and Frank Wysor. Politically, the Doctor is a staunch Democrat. He belongs to Lafayette Lodge, No. 57, A. F. & A. M., and Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 71, K. of P., of St. Albans, West Virginia. He is also a valued member of the Kanawha Medical Association. The religious connection of the family is with the Baptist Church.



HON. GEORGE C. STURGISS.

HON. GEORGE C. STURGISS, who for many years has been one of West Virginia's best known and most popular men, is a lawyer who has at-

tained high distinction in his profession and has frequently been called to fill offices of public trust. He resides in Morgantown and has always taken a deep interest in the growth and development of that community.

George C. Sturgiss was born at Poland, Mahoning County, Ohio, August 16, 1842, and is a son of Rev. A. G. Sturgiss, who was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Rev. A. G. Sturgiss was united in marriage with Sabra L. Miner, by whom he had three sons, namely: Joseph, W.; George C.; and Alfred G. George C. Sturgiss was named for the Rev. George Cookman, a distinguished minister of the Gospel, who went down on the ill-fated steamer "President," in 1841.

George C. Sturgiss was but three years of age when his father died, and at the age of 11 years he started out to make his way in the world. He went to Monongalia County, Virginia, now West Virginia, to visit friends in 1859 and located at Morgantown. He attended Monongalia Academy for two years, and soon thereafter took up the study of the law under Waitman T. Willey, then a member of the U. S. Senate. He was admitted to the bar, May 11, 1864, and at once entered upon the practice of his chosen profession,

forming a partnership with Ralph L. Berkshire, later a judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals. Being a diligent student and attentive to business, he was not long in building up a lucrative practice. On September 22, 1863, he was married to Sabra J. Vance, daughter of Col. Addison S. Vance. During 1864-65, he was paymaster's clerk in the United States Army, and the following year served as first superintendent of free schools of Monongalia County, and was elected to a second term. During his administration he placed the free school system in that county on a firm basis. He served three consecutive terms in the House of Delegates of West Virginia, and never were his constituents more ably served in that body. Ex-Governor Atkinson, in his interesting work entitled "Prominent Men of West Virginia," says of him: "The writer, who was a legislative reporter for the years in which Mr. Sturgiss was a member of the Legislature, remembers him as a young man of high personal character, attentive to his duties and very able in discharge of them. He was beyond question one of the most formidable and forceful members of those sessions."

In 1872, Mr. Sturgiss was elected prosecuting attorney of Monongalia County, and was re-elected to the same

office in 1876, serving for eight consecutive years. In 1880, he was nominated by acclamation as candidate for Governor by the Republican convention, and although defeated he ran far ahead of his ticket in many counties. He is a man of personal magnetism, a clear forcible speaker, and possessed of no mean ability as an orator, and in his canvass of the State made many lasting friends. In 1889 he was appointed by President Harrison to the responsible and trying position of district attorney for the District of West Virginia, an office which for a quarter of a century had been filled by men of recognized ability in the legal profession. Mr. Sturgiss, in the onerous duties that fell upon him, measured up to the high standard of his predecessors and proved himself equal in all respects to the requirements of the position.

He financed and rebuilt the West Virginia Northern Railroad from Tunnelton to Kingwood in 1897, and in 1899 and 1900 built the Morgantown & Kingwood Railroad from Morgantown to Masontown with a branch to the Fulmer mines (being president of both companies), in all of which work he was ably seconded by J. Ami Martin as vice-president and general superintendent. He is a large stockholder and director in the many industrial enter-

prises on the line of the latter road, including Sand & Stone Company, Tin Plate Mill, Aluminum Coating Company, Prism Plate Glass Company, Planing Mill, Mirror Company, and is secretary and director of the Union Utility Company, controlling the water, gas, electric light and street car lines of Morgantown, and is a director in two of the banking institutions of that city.

He was for 12 years secretary of the board of regents of the State University and for four years president of the board, and made the contracts for the purchase of the agricultural station farm and building, the library, Armory and Mechanical Hall, the finest buildings in the group of buildings of the University, involving a cost including the additional land purchased, of over a quarter of a million dollars. The lands purchased quadrupled in value within four years. He heartily seconded the progressive and able administration of Dr. Jerome Hall Raymond, president of the University, and during the four years in which they were associated the attendance doubled, many new departments were added and the University acquired a standing and influence in university circles never before approached.

He is a member of the Methodist

Episcopal Church, which has received many benefactions from him and his excellent wife. He is chairman of the board of trustees now building a new church that will cost when completed over \$100,000.

He is now the owner and controlling spirit of the *Morgantown Post*, the leading daily and weekly Republican paper in the Monongahela Valley, and is identified with every movement looking to the advance of the material prosperity of the city and valley where he has spent over 40 years of his life.



CHARLES R. McNUTT.

CHARLES R. McNUTT, one of the leading attorneys and successful business citizens of Princeton, West

Virginia, was born in 1854 at Princeton, and is a son of Dr. Robert Blaine and Ellen E. (Peck) McNutt.

The McNutt family is of Scotch-Irish descent and John McNutt, the earliest known ancestor, was a native and resident of Scotland. A part of the family removed to County Donegal, Ireland, and from that point a John McNutt, son of Alexander and Jane McNutt, emigrated in 1745 and settled in Orange (now Rockbridge) County, Virginia, on the North River. John McNutt married Katherine Anderson, and their son William was born April 16, 1774. In 1806 the latter married Elizabeth Grigsby, born March 10, 1776 and they lived in Rockbridge County where he was a man highly regarded and a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Robert Blaine McNutt, the father of our subject, was born February 19, 1814, and died in 1894. He was one of the best known and most respected men of his section, and for years was the only physician accessible to Mercer and McDowell counties. He spent a few years at Blacksburg, Virginia, after graduating at Richmond College. Many leading families of Virginia—the Grigsbys, the Glasgows, the McCorkles and the Greenless—were his kindred and Governor McNutt of

Mississippi belonged to the same stock. The mother of our subject was born in Giles County, Virginia, a daughter of John Peck, a stanch Whig and man of affairs in his locality. Five children were born to Dr. and Mrs. McNutt, namely: John W., a druggist of St.



DR. ROBERT BLAINE McNUTT.

Louis, Missouri, married Jennie Black; Dr. Joseph P., a physician at Princeton, married Jennie Adair; Josephine, born in 1845, died in 1862; Charles R.; and Juanita, the wife of G. B. Sinclair of Charlottesville, Virginia.

The subject of this sketch was reared in Mercer County and completed his education at Emory and Henry College. His study of the law was with Capt. John A. Douglass at Princeton,

Mercer County, and he was admitted to practice in 1889, being for some time a partner of Captain Douglass. From 1873, for 12 years, he was in the county clerk's office, six years as deputy and six years as clerk. Mr. McNutt has so many business interests at present that he does not confine himself to the practice of his profession. He owns two fine farms near Princeton which he devotes to stock raising, and his home is one of the handsomest in Princeton.

In 1883 Mr. McNutt married Emma B. Barnes, daughter of Rev. William H. Barnes, of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. She was reared in the old and aristocratic city of Norfolk, Virginia. The five children of this union are: Roberta, William B., Charles R., Jr., Juanita, Joe Douglass, their ages ranging from 19 to 10 years. Mr. McNutt has been a lifelong Democrat, and, notwithstanding the fact that his county and State, in recent years, have become overwhelmingly Republican, he still adheres to his principles.

HON. BENJAMIN STANTON, lawyer and statesman, was born at Mount Pleasant, Ohio, June 4, 1809, and died at Wheeling, West Virginia, June 2, 1872.

He was the only child of Elias Stanton and his wife Martha, who was a daughter of William and Elizabeth Wilson. His parents were members of the Society of Friends, and their marriage contract, dated October 22, 1807, is still in the possession of his family. The names of a large number of pioneer Ohio Friends and Quakers are subscribed to that contract, as witnesses, among them, David Stanton, who was the father of Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, and a cousin of Elias Stanton.

Mr. Stanton's childhood was spent on a farm near Mount Pleasant, and when a youth he first learned the trade of a tailor, and then studied law with Stokely & Marsh in Steubenville, Ohio. He married Nancy Davis at Mount Pleasant, in January, 1830, and was admitted to practice law at Steubenville in the fall of 1833. In April, 1834, he removed to Bellefontaine, Ohio, where he resided until he removed to West Virginia in 1866. Hon. William Lawrence (U. S. Comptroller of the Currency), who was a contemporary of Mr. Stanton at Bellefontaine, says, in a sketch of Mr. Stanton's life, that he was the leading lawyer in that part of Ohio for 25 years prior to 1866. In 1841, Mr. Stanton was elected to the Senate of Ohio, having prior to that time served as prosecuting attorney of

his county. With other Whigs he resigned his office as senator in the summer of 1842 in order to break a quorum in the Senate, and thus prevent a Democratic gerrymander of the State, and his course was approved by his re-election in the fall of 1842. In January, 1851, he formed a law partnership with C. W. B. Allison, under the firm name of Stanton & Allison, which continued until his death. In the year 1850, he was a member of the convention that framed the Ohio Constitution, and he was also chosen to represent the Eighth Congressional District of Ohio in the 32nd Congress. He was not a member of the next Congress, but was re-elected in 1854, and served through successive re-elections until the close of the thirty-sixth Congress on the 4th of March, 1861. He was, during the 35th Congress, appointed one of the regents of the Smithsonian Institution and was chosen chairman of the committee on military affairs during the last Congress before the War of the Rebellion. The records of Congress, while he was a member, show that he took an active part in the stirring debates prior to the war, and that he was one of the Republican leaders in the House of Representatives. In 1860, he was strongly supported for United States Senator from Ohio, but

the choice fell to Hon. John Sherman, who thereafter served so long and eminently in that capacity as to be known wherever the Senate is known. Mr. Stanton received the unsought Republican nomination for Lieutenant Governor of Ohio in 1862, and was elected on the same ticket with David Tod for Governor, serving two years.

At the close of the war, a majority of the able lawyers of the State of West Virginia were prevented from practicing their profession because they could not take the "test oath" (that they had not borne arms against the United States or aided or supported the Confederate cause), and Mr. Stanton and his partner determined to remove to this State where professional ability was in demand and where there was a wide field for legal practice in business involving greater amounts generally than the business in their portion of Ohio. Accordingly, in the spring of 1866, the firm of Stanton & Allison opened an office in Martinsburg in charge of Mr. Stanton, and another office in Wheeling, in charge of Mr. Allison. In the spring of 1867, the Martinsburg office was closed, and thereafter the members of the firm continued together at Wheeling. The first five volumes of the decisions of the Supreme Court of West Virginia show

that during the time that Mr. Stanton practiced law in West Virginia he was of counsel in a larger number of cases in that court than any lawyer in the State, and he was also of counsel in nearly every case that went to the Supreme Court of the United States from this State during that period.

In the aforesaid sketch, Judge Lawrence says: "For native ability and power in debate, Mr. Stanton has rarely been excelled in Ohio, or indeed in the nation." In an editorial after Mr. Stanton's death, the *Toledo Commercial* said: "Mr. Stanton was not only a man of very strong intellectual powers, with extensive knowledge upon all questions of public interest, but his reputation for honesty and fidelity in the discharge of official duties was above even the taint of suspicion." A long editorial on the death of Mr. Stanton in the *Wheeling Daily Register* of June 4, 1872, includes the following: "He was a fine advocate, one of the best that has ever spoken at the bar in this county, and all his speeches, whether in court or in the political forum, were marked by a clearness of statement and an apparent earnestness and sincerity and honesty of purpose that rendered them unusually effective. He took an active part in whatever concerned the public welfare and was al-

ways ready to devote his time and labor to the discharge of whatever duty his fellow citizens imposed upon him. It has been our fortune to differ with him, both politically and upon many questions of local importance, and to know how great an influence he wielded and what a strong hold he had upon the public mind. His private character was above reproach. He has been for many years a member of the Methodist Church and in all the social relations of life has enjoyed the warm friendship of all who knew him. Kind hearted, generous, affable and courteous, he had attached to himself hosts of friends and was admired no less for his brilliant talents than for his estimable qualities as a man. The death of such a man is always a public calamity, and we feel sure that we but express the sentiment of the entire community when we say that without distinction or exception the citizens of Wheeling mourn his death. From the midst of his activity and his usefulness he has passed away, leaving behind him the perfume of a well spent life and the commendation of his fellow men."

Mr. Stanton left surviving him a widow, who died May 16, 1886, a daughter of Mrs. Mary Stanton Allison (the wife of his law partner), who died October 13, 1899, and two sons,

James D. and Frank, who still reside in Wheeling. Another son (Capt. Alexander H. Stanton) had died shortly before his father's demise, leaving a widow and one son (Edwin L.), who are still living.



RT. REV. DANIEL O'CONNER.

RT. REV. DANIEL O'CONNER, pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, at Clarksburg, Harrison County, West Virginia, was born March 27, 1833, in St. Johns, New Brunswick, and is a son of Bernard and Sally (McLaughlin) O'Conner, who came to the United States in 1840. They located at Hancock, Morgan County, Virginia, now West Virginia, where they lived until 1841 and then removed to Doe Gully Tunnell, Morgan

County, and in 1846 to Mount Savage, in Alleghany County. In 1852 they located near Fairmont. They died at Parkersburg, the father in 1870, and the mother in 1865, and both are buried there.

Father O'Conner was educated at St. Charles College, near Ellicott City, Howard County, Maryland, being one of its first students, and is the only clergyman of his class still surviving. He remained at St. Charles from 1848 to 1854 and then spent one year at St. Mary's Seminary of St. Sulpice at Baltimore, the oldest Catholic theological school in the United States, this being succeeded by two years at St. Vincent's Seminary at Wheeling. Two years were then spent at Mount St. Mary's of the West Seminary, Cincinnati, Ohio; upon his return to Wheeling he was ordained on September 4, 1859, by Bishop R. V. Whelan. His first work was in the mission at Parkersburg, from September, 1859, to 1861, in the latter year being put in charge of the parish at Weston, with parochial duties covering a very wide territory. On February 14, 1864, he was removed to Clarksburg.

Prior to locating in Clarksburg, Father O'Conner had built a small church at Sand Fork, Lewis County, West Virginia. Although his new

field was filled with difficulties, he entered upon his duties confident of success. Prior to the establishment of the present church, monthly mass was said in the homes of several devoted parishoners. In the summer of 1864 work was commenced on the present beautiful church edifice. It is located on one of the most desirable sites, on the east side of Elk Creek, on Pike street. The church and grounds cost about \$12,000. and the building was completed in 1865. In 1866 the first Catholic school was started in the city by this indefatigable pastor, and, with the willing assistance of those closely attached to him, a fine parochial school followed, supplemented with an academy which still flourishes, second to none in the State.

Father O'Conner has never ceased his labors in the direction of the improvement of the church property and the advancement of his people in education and religious life. In 1902 many improvenemts were made to the Church of the Immaculate Conception, it having become necessary to enlarge the seating capacity. Father O'Conner has proved himself a fine financier, a splendid organizer and is a man who not only is beloved and obeyed by his own parish, but has also gained the very highest measure of esteem in the community.



HON. COLONEL ELLSWORTH RUDESILL.

HON. COLONEL ELLSWORTH RUDESILL, member of the House of Delegates of the West Virginia Legislature from Kanawha County, a prominent merchant of Charleston, of which city he is the present mayor, and the senior member of the firm of Rudesill & Meade, dealers both wholesale and retail in fine imported and domestic china and glassware, was born in Akron, Ohio. His parents, C. J. and Frances (Bentley) Rudesill, were also born in Ohio. C. J. Rudesill is a prominent resident of Shandon, Ohio.

Colonel Ellsworth Rudesill at

tended the common and high schools of his native place and then took a business course in a commercial college. He later accepted a clerical position with the Upson Coal Company, of Shawnee, Ohio, with whom he remained one year, and then engaged in a music business with Hamilton Brothers, of Springfield, Ohio. In 1884, in association with his father, he embarked in a crockery and queensware business at Gallipolis, Ohio, under the firm style of C. J. Rudesill & Son, which partnership continued in that town for about four years. In 1889 they removed to Charleston, and established a successful business in the same line, which continued until 1901, when the senior member retired from this firm and C. H. Meade was admitted to partnership. This house is one of the largest of its kind in the State, and the stock carried is complete in every particular. The business is located at No. 65 Capitol street, where the three-story structure is fitted with all modern improvements and conveniences. The dimensions of the building are 30 by 100 feet with basement; a stock room at No. 67 Capitol street is made use of in the growing wholesale business.

Mr. Rudesill has been a prominent member of the Republican party for

a number of years, and since the fall of 1900 has ably represented Kanawha County as a member of the House of Delegates. He was the Republican candidate for mayor of Charleston, at the city election held March 9, 1903, and was elected. He has filled a number of responsible State offices and is director of the Asylum for Incurables, at Huntington, West Virginia. Fraternally he is associated with the Knights of Pythias and the Elks.



JAMES E. LAMBERT.

JAMES E. LAMBERT, manager of the company store of the Crozier Coal & Coke Company, at Elkhorn, McDowell County, West Virginia, was

born in 1872 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He is a son of Louis and Adrianna A. (Martin) Lambert, the former of whom was born in the Isle of St. Kitts, France, and died in 1898, aged 72 years. For many years he was a successful merchant but had lived a retired life for some time before his death. His wife was born in Philadelphia, and died in 1898, aged 56 years. Both parents were consistent members of the Roman Catholic Church. They reared a family of six sons and six daughters.

James E. Lambert secured an excellent education in the public schools of Philadelphia. In 1898 he became a clerk for the Norfolk & Western Railway Company at Bluefield, West Virginia, and six months later entered the employ of the Nunan & Carr Lumber Company, as manager at Vivian, remaining in that connection four years. He then went for the same firm in the same capacity to Tug River, McDowell County, and remained there about one year, accepting then his present position as manager of the company store for the Crozier Coal & Coke Company at Elkhorn. Mr. Lambert has proved his capacity in every position he has held, and enjoys the confidence of his employers. In politics he is independent. Religiously he belongs to the Roman Catholic Church.